

Syllabus Psychology 502, Theories
Fall 2015
Wednesday 4:30

Instructor: Gail Johnson, PhD LP

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If you wish to reach me between classes please use email.

Course Description: This course is an overview of Theories of Personality as applied by practicing psychologists.

Learning Goals:

1. Students will be able to state the concepts of major theories.
2. Students will know basic terminology related to each theory.
3. Students will understand how theories are applied by psychologists.

Textbook: Corsini and Wedding, Current Psychotherapies

Tentative Schedule of readings and Exams

September 2,	Introductions
September 9	Psychoanalytic Psychotherapies Chapter 2
September 16	Adlerian Psychotherapy Chapter 3
September 23	Client Centered Therapy Chapter 4
September 30	Exam 1
October 7	Rational Emotive Behavior Therapy Chapter 5
October 14	Cognitive therapy Chapter 7
October 21	Existential Psychotherapy Chapter 8
October 28	Gestalt Therapy Chapter 9
November 4	Interpersonal Psychotherapy Chapter 10

November 11	Exam 2
November 18	Family Therapy Chapter 11
November 25	Happy Thanksgiving
December 2	Positive Psychotherapy Chapter 13
Dec 9	Discussion of your comfort and choice of a theoretical basis for your professional life. Paper due this date.
Dec 16	Final Exam

Your grade will be based on the following:

3 Exams (Each 20% of your grade)

Expert Project: You will be an expert on one theory. (20%)

- 1) You will prepare an outline of that theory including persons who developed or advanced the theory, key terminology, major concepts and current research. This outline should be complete but concise and is designed to be a study guide for that theory on comprehensive exams. This will be given to your classmates the day we discuss this theory.
- 2) You will present a case study using your theory.
- 3) You will provide your classmates a list of at least 5 research articles using the theory or testing the theory.

Paper on your theoretical perspective. (20%)

You will write a 2 to 3 page paper in which you select one theory and discuss why you would select it to be a basis of your work in the field of psychology. Be prepared to discuss you paper on December 9.

Attendance is necessary for successful work in this class. You will be expected to attend and participate in all classes. No makeup exams will be given without written, verifiable medical or legal excuses. You may not be given the same exam as your class if you take a makeup exam.

Student Conduct and Absences: “ All students enrolled at the University shall follow the tenets of common decency and acceptable behavior conducive to a positive learning environment.” Students are expected to follow the code of conduct in class described in the Student Handbook(Policies and Procedures, Code of Student Conduct). Violation of the code will lead to an initiation of the disciplinary processes described in the Handbook. Proper student conduct also includes maintaining a standard of academic

honesty. This means that neither cheating nor plagiarism will be tolerated and students who engage in either will be subject to the disciplinary processes described in the Code of Student Conduct). Plagiarism essentially means that you cannot use the words and ideas of another person without giving them credit. Therefore, "quotation marks should be used to indicate the exact words of another. Each time you paraphrase another author you will need to credit the source in the text" (APA, 2001, p. 249). If you have any questions about what constitutes cheating or plagiarism please see me.

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Students with Disabilities: The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) is a federal antidiscrimination statute that provides comprehensive civil rights protection for persons with disabilities. Among other things, this legislation requires that all students with disabilities be guaranteed a learning environment that provides for reasonable accommodation of their disabilities. If you have a disability requiring an accommodation, please contact:

Office of Student Disability Resources and Services
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Gee Library
Room 132
Phone (903) 886-5150 or (903) 886-5835
Fax (903) 468-8148
StudentDisabilityServices@tamuc.edu